

Washington State Board of Optometry  
Minutes of Meeting

A meeting of the Washington State Board of Optometry was called to order at 9:00 AM on Friday, September 7, 2007 by Lund Chin, O.D., Chair. The meeting was held in the Washington Room of the Ramada Airport Inn, Spokane International Airport, 8909 Airport Road, Spokane, WA, 99219.

**BOARD MEMBERS**

**PRESENT:**

Lund Chin, O.D., Chair  
Thomas Riley, O.D.  
Mary Lou Staples, Public Member  
Jeffrey Sutro, O.D.  
Laura Toepfer, O.D.  
Mariann Tonder, O.D.

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Gail Yu, Assistant Attorney General  
Judy Haenke, Program Manager  
Karli Bourne, Program Representative

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

R. Richard Ryan, O.D., President, Optometric Physicians of Washington.  
Brad Tower, Tower and Associates

**ORDER OF AGENDA**

**OPEN SESSION:**

**9:00 a.m.                    Call to Order**

1.    Approval of Agenda  
      The agenda was approved, with an amendment to include a Continuing Education handout under tab 11, as item 11.1..
2.    Approval of Minutes of June 8, 2007, Meeting  
      The minutes of the June 8, 2007, meeting were approved with a spelling error corrected under **12. Correspondence**, 12.1: "if" in the second sentence to read "of".

**9:10 a.m.                    REPORTS**

3.    Lund Chin, O.D., Chair

Dr. Chin reported on upcoming Board Vacancies. Current terms for Dr. Lund Chin, Dr. Jeffrey Sutro, and Dr. Mariann Tonder all expire on September 19,

2007. Board members currently serving will continue to serve in their positions until new members are appointed.

**4. Judy Haenke, Acting Executive Director**

Ms Haenke reported on the following:

- Staffing changes at the Department of Health in Section Four of Health Professions Quality Assurance Division. Recruitment for the program manager position for Optometry, Veterinary, and Animal Massage is in progress.
- The Board of Optometry annual seminar is not fully funded in this year's budget. The Board will therefore need to charge a nominal fee once more to cover the costs of room rental at Kane Hall and the seminar program costs for travel and speaker honorarium.
- The Citizen Advocacy Center meeting will be held from October 29-31, in Seattle. The Department of Health will co-host the meeting. The theme of this year's conference is "Creative Regulation: Keeping Boards Relevant. Mary Lou Staples is planning to attend the conference. All members of the Board are invited to attend.

**9:30 A.M. DISCUSSION**

**5. Designation of Signature Authority**

The Board moved to designate signature authority to Department of Health staff in the following areas:

- Credentialing - Judy Haenke
- Discipline - Janelle Teachman
- Rules - Judy Haenke

Motion was seconded and approved. Signature authority stands as above until January 1, 2009.

**6. Sanctioning Guidelines**

The Board discussed the current utilization of the Uniform Sanctioning Guidelines. Currently the guidelines are being utilized on a trial basis. Governor Gregoire has requested that all Boards consider adoption of these guidelines in disciplinary procedure to promote consistency in utilization of the guidelines across the Department of Health. After discussion a motion was made to adopt the guidelines. Seconded and guidelines were adopted.

**7. Performance Audit – Health Professions Quality Assurance**

The Board reviewed and discussed the audit conducted through the Office of the Washington State Auditor at the request of Governor Gregoire. The audit is

among the first of a series of state performance audits conducted after voters approved Initiative 900.

The audit is the product of 7 full-time auditors working for 5 months. The report makes 13 recommendations for improvements that include up to 70 possible actions to make them happen. Many of the audit's other recommendations would require more money or legislative action, or both.

As per page 24 of the Audit Report, HPQA will provide a threshold list used for Secretary-regulated professions to all boards and commissions for their adoption and use, by March 2008

The Board discussed the process delay issues related to incoming complaints and the time needed to assess for imminent danger discussed in the audit. Following discussion, a motion was made to have board staff obtain information on how quickly investigations take place from receipt of a complaint against a licensed optometrists to a decision to investigate. Motion seconded. Board staff will retrieve appropriate records and report to the Board of Optometry regarding such timeline.

## **8. Post-Graduate Seminar – March 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

Seminar Chair, Dr. Laura Toepfer, reported on work toward scheduling for speakers on the upcoming seminar. Many speakers have confirmed they will participate. Dr. Toepfer is waiting to final confirmation from all speakers before the schedule is complete.

## **9. Continuing Education**

9.1 Review of Courses Submitted for Approval – the following continuing education courses were approved:

- Pacific Cataract & Laser Institute (PCLI), “The Finer Art of Cararat Surgery”, Approved for 2 hours.
- Northwest Eye Surgeons, “Custom IntraLASIK Mini CE Fellowship”, Approved for 2 hours
- University of Houston, College of Optometry, “National Optometric Assn Continuing Professional Education Meeting”, Approved for 2 general hours of CE, 8 Diagnostic/Therapeutic hours of CE
- PCLI, “What’s New in Oculofacial Plastic Surgery?”, Approved for 2 hours CE
- PCLI, “How to Fix a Broken Cornea”, Approved for 2 hours CE
- PCLI, “CE as a Refractive Option”, Approved for 2 hours CE
- PCLI, “Nothing Normal About Normal Tension Glaucoma”, Approved for 1 hour CE
- Spokane Eye Clinic, “2007 Fall Ophthalmology Update”, Approved for 4 hours CE

- PCLI, “Custom Cataract Surgery: new Opportunities, New Challenges”, Approved for 2 hours CE
- PCLI, “Comanagement of Multifocal Lens Implants”, Approved for 2 hours CE
- PCLI, “Custom Cataract – new Opportunities, New Challenges (different doctors presenting than #9), Approved for 2 hours CE
- John Merslich, OD, “Clinical rotation: Dept. OF Ophthalmology/Neuro-Ophthalmology, University of Iowa Hospital & Clinics, Iowa City – Approved for 10 hours of CE
- College of Optometrists in Vision Development, Approved for 56 maximum CE hours; no attendee can obtain more than 14 hours in 2 days
- Portland VA Medical Center, “VISN 20 Optometry Grand Rounds CE: Diabetic Retinal Screening With Tele-Medicine”, Approved for 1 hour CE
- Optometric Physicians of Washington, Kenneth White, OD, “4 Seminar Presentations: Billing and Coding to Medicare, How to Bill for Glasses and Other Insurance Related Issues (presented twice), An Overview of Medicare and Other Third party Billing and Coding Issues”, Approved for 10 hours Practice Management
- Oregon Optometry Assn, Pacific College of Optometry, “23 Hour Didactic Course and 7 Hour Ocular Injections Workshop”, Approved for 30 hours CE
- Jeffrey A. Hiett, OD, “Self-Study and Online Course”, requested 4 hours for online course, 10 hours for self-study; Approved for 14 hours
- John Smith, OD, “Assessment and Management of the Partially Sighted Patient”, requested 10 hours of CE, CE not approved. Reason for denial: Not post doctoral education.

9.2 Mary Lou Staples, public member, will review CE for the next quarter.

#### **10. Update of enacted legislation. Information**

Up to an additional \$25 assessment will be added to optometrists renewal fee for access to the University of Washington library. Discussion: The University of Washington library search engines do not recognize optometric journals as a valid resource available to queries. The Board recommended that the University of Washington be contacted and a request be made to enable search engines to recognize optometric journals.

**LUNCH: 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

#### **11. Correspondence**

The Board considered a request from Brett Hagen, O.D. for an extension of time complete his continuing education hours. Following discussion, A motion was made to approve CE extension request by Dr. Brett Hagen, OD.

## **12. Meeting and Hearing Dates for 2008.**

The following meeting and hearing dates were approved. Hearing dates may be cancelled if no hearing is scheduled.

- March 7, 2008
- June 13, 2008
- September 12, 2008
- December 5, 2008

Hearing Dates: (If Needed)

- October 10, 2007)
- January 16, 2006
- April 23, 2008
- August 13, 2008
- October 8, 2008

## **13. Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO)**

Report from Laura Toepfer, OD, and Mary Lou Staples

Dr. Toepfer and Mary Lou Staples reported to the Board on the Association of Regulatory Board of Optometry (ARBO) meeting held in June 2007 in Boston Massachusetts.

Dr. Toepfer also reported on the June 22-24, 2008 , ARBO meeting which will be held in Seattle at the Fairmont Hotel. Karli Bourne will look into the costs and availability of hospitality gifts for attendees that reflect Washington to visitors from out-of-state. ARBO will supply the Board with cups to fill.

Suggestions on what to place in the cups included apples and cutlets, Mt. St. Helens ash, Brown & Haley candies, and space needle stickers.

## **14. Open Forum**

Question was raised regarding a “grace period” for renewal of license for doctors who do not renew by their birth date. The Department of Health does not have a grace period following the due date for renewals. Licenses not renewed by the due date are lapsed and the doctor must submit a late fee when renewing the license.

A question was raised regarding notice being sent to doctors regarding education requirements for licensing at the highest level and the dates by which this must occur. Notices have been sent out to all doctors currently licensed in the state of Washington.

Dr. Sutro brought to the attention of the Board that in 2009 when the therapeutic/diagnostic education requirement goes into effect, equipment requirements for doctors of optometry should be updated in rules.

**15. Other Open Session Business**

No other open session business.

**2:00 p.m. CLOSED SESSION:**

**16. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Karli Bourne, Program Representative

Approved:

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Lund Chin, O.D., Chair